AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

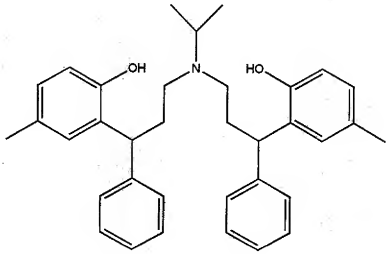
Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) Racemic tolterodine free base in crystalline form.

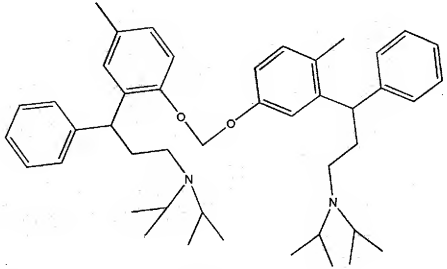
2. (Currently Amended) Racemic tolterodine free base in crystalline form **according to claim 1** containing less than about 0.2% of dimeric impurity.

3 (Original) Tolterodine according to claim 2, wherein the dimeric impurity comprises one or both of the following impurities:

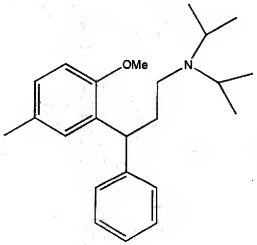
Dimer 1:



Dimer 2:



4. (Original) A process of preparing racemic tolterodine free base in crystalline form, which comprises deprotection of protected intermediate of formula (II)



(II)

wherein a solvent is present in the reaction mass obtained further to the deprotection and is selected so that a substantially mobile reaction mass is achieved at temperatures in the range of 70 to 100°C.

5. (Original) A process according to claim 4, wherein said deprotection employs pyridine hydrochloride.

6. (Original) A process according to claim 5, wherein said deprotection is carried out under an inert atmosphere at a temperature in the range of 200 to 220°C.

7. (Original) A process according to claim 6, wherein further to said deprotection said reaction mass is cooled to a temperature in the range of 110 to 130°C and said solvent is added thereto.

8. (Currently Amended) A process according to ~~any of claims 4 to 7~~ claim 4, wherein said solvent is dimethylformamide.

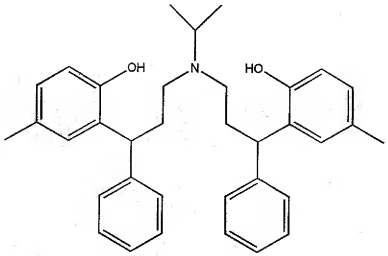
9. (Currently Amended) A process according to ~~any of claims 4 to 8~~ claim 5, wherein the resulting crude hydrochloride salt of racemic tolterodine is basified and the resulting racemic tolterodine free base extracted and precipitated to provide crystalline racemic tolterodine free base.

10. (Currently Amended) A process according to ~~any of claims 4 to 9~~ claim 9, which further comprises a purification step to obtain racemic tolterodine free base in crystalline form containing less than about 0.2% of dimeric impurity.

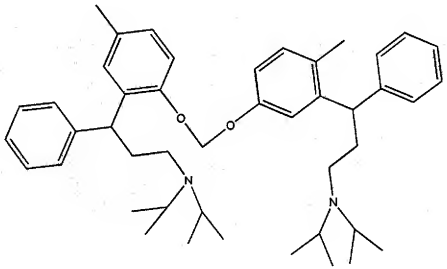
11. (Currently Amended) A process according to ~~any of claims 4 to 10~~ claim 10, which further comprises resolving the thus obtained racemic tolterodine free base to obtain (+)tolterodine tartrate containing less than about 0.1% of dimeric impurity.

12. (Currently Amended) A process according to claim ~~10 or~~ 11, wherein said dimeric impurity comprises one or both of the following impurities:

Dimer 1:

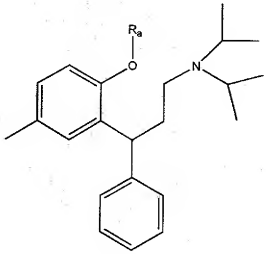


Dimer 2:



13-14. (Canceled).

15. (Original) A process of preparing racemic tolterodine free base in crystalline form, which process comprises deprotection of a benzyl protected intermediate of formula (III)



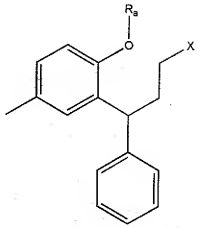
(III)

where R_a represents unsubstituted benzyl, or a substituted benzyl protecting group.

16. (Currently Amended) A process according to claim 15, which further ~~comprise~~ comprises resolving the thus obtained racemic tolterodine free base to obtain (+)tolterodine tartrate containing less than about 0.1% of dimeric impurity.

17. (Currently Amended) A process according to claim ~~15 or~~ 16, wherein R_a represents unsubstituted benzyl.

18. (Currently Amended) A process according to ~~any of claims 15 to 17~~ claim 15, wherein an intermediate compound of formula (III) is prepared by reaction of diisopropylamine with an intermediate compound of formula (IV)



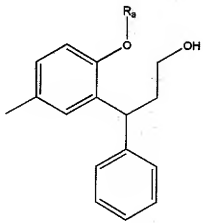
(IV)

where ~~R_a is as defined in claim 15 and~~ X represents a leaving group.

19. (Original) A process according to claim 18, wherein X represents arylsulphonyloxy.

20. (Original) A process according to claim 19, wherein X represents tosylate.

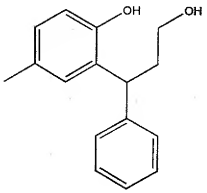
21. (Currently Amended) A process according to ~~any of claims 18 to 20~~ claim 18, wherein an intermediate compound of formula (IV) is prepared from an intermediate compound of formula (V)



(V)

~~where R_a is as defined in claim 15~~.

22. (Currently Amended) A process according to claim 21, wherein a compound of formula (V) is prepared by protection of an intermediate compound of formula (VI)



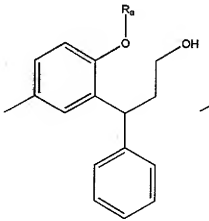
(VI)

by introduction of group R_a~~, where R_a is as defined in claim 15~~.

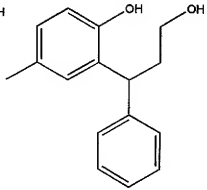
23. (Original) A process according to claim 22, wherein a compound of formula (VI) is prepared from 6-methyl-4-phenyl-chroman-2-one.

24-25. (Canceled).

26. (Currently Amended) An intermediate compound of formula (V)**, or (VI):**



(V)



(VI)

where R_a represents unsubstituted benzyl, or a substituted benzyl protecting group.

27. (Original) An intermediate of formula (V) according to claim 26, wherein R_a represents unsubstituted benzyl.

28. (Canceled).

29. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising tolterodine according to ~~any of claims 1 to 3, 13, 14, 24 or 25~~ claim 1, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent or excipient therefor.

30-33. (Canceled).